

Miller & Rhoads

Mail Orders Filled at Advertised Prices.

Women's Furs, Coats, Skirts

Big Reductions in Prices.

It's a good time now to take advantage of reductions in this department, which apply also to Fancy Suits, Novelty Waists and high-grade garments of all kinds.

Furs 1-4 Under Former Prices

Fox, Jap Mink, River Mink and Astrakhan Muffs and Scarfs in the collection.

\$5.00 values, now \$3.75 \$5.00 values, now \$3.50
\$6.00 values, now \$4.50 \$10.00 values, now \$7.50

Women's Long Coats, Values up to \$7.50

Union Broadcloth and Melton Coats, 50 and 52 inches long, black only.
Trimmed with braid; body lined.
Splendid values in every way. We've cut the price for Friday to \$4.95.

Long Coats in fancy coatings of gray and brown checks and plaids. Velvet collar, double breasted, stitched folds down the back. Just what you need for cold or stormy weather. \$8 values, reduced to..... \$5.95

Women's Plaid Skirts,

Brown and green serges, gray chevrons and Oxford checks.
Well tailored skirts, that sold from five to ten dollars each—very few at the former price—the most of them being seven dollar values.

Many Manton Patterns, 10c by mail, 12c.

BECK THREATENED WITH DAMAGE SUIT

Connolly Tells Him Step Is Certain if Ragland's Revised Application Is Denied.

TO DECIDE QUESTION TO-DAY

City Attorney Quoted to Show That Protest of Citizens Has No Weight.

Building Inspector Beck was notified yesterday by J. A. Connolly, agent for J. F. Ragland, that if he refuses to issue a permit to-day for the erection of six stories on North Fifth Street, at the corner of Grace, he will have to face a personal suit for damages. Mr. Beck will either reject or approve the application to-day.

When the Board of Public Safety sustained the inspection two weeks ago and threw out the Ragland appeal, it was not stated officially whether this action was due to policy or to the failure of Mr. Ragland to comply with the ordinance, which says that the building walls must extend up to and through the roof. With this ordinance before him, Mr. Ragland filed revised plans, so far as the walls were concerned. Now he will "give the city another chance."

Beck Consulted Ragland.

Accompanied by Mr. Ragland's attorney, Mr. Connolly, Mr. Beck early yesterday and informed him that he would hold him personally responsible in the courts if he did not grant the permit forthwith.

"Mr. Beck would have acted one way or the other at once," said Mr. Connolly, "but waited until he could consult Colonel Eugene C. Massie, who happens to be the attorney for citizens who object to the erection of the stores. There is no city ordinance giving the Building Inspector authority to deny us a permit, and in doing so he goes contrary to the opinion of City Attorney Pollard."

Mr. Beck would not intimate yesterday what he would do. He did not appear to be disturbed by the threat of a damage suit, although Mr. Connolly gave him the citations, which were afterward submitted to Colonel Massie.

Will Go Into Court.

"We are determined to test the right of a city official to build on our own land," said Mr. Connolly, "and if the permit is not issued application will be made to the court for a writ of mandamus."

"There is absolutely nothing in the ordinance building code to warrant Mr. Beck in refusing. He could hardly have done that in the first instance had he been guided by the advice of the City Attorney."

In the meantime the property owners in Grace Street are watching the new turn of affairs with the greatest interest. The statement published several days ago that Mr. Ragland would not surrender to the Board of Public Safety, and that the case would most certainly reach the courts, has aroused the protesters, and they seem to want an early decision.

May Grant Permit.

Since the revised plans conform to the ordinance, it would not be surprising if Mr. Beck should grant the permit to-day, in which event the property owners near by, and not Mr. Ragland, might seek a mandamus.

BOXES SENT OUT

Families of Complex Express Surprise at Being Benefited.

Thirty well-filled boxes have gone, express charges prepaid, to the homes of convicts in the Virginia State Penitentiary. Mrs. George H. Wiley, who has had charge of the work, said last night that at least ten more boxes will be sent out by the penitentiary. Many letters have been received, acknowledging the receipt of the presents and expressing the appreciation of the convicts. Some of the letters are very pathetic, indicating surprise that any one should have thought of the families of convicts and declare that the people of Richmond ought to know just what they needed. Each box contained at least \$15 worth of clothing and useful presents. The merchants of Richmond who contributed to this undertaking did not give their cut-off stock, but in nearly every case sent first-class goods. Contributions are still coming in, and Mrs. Wiley purposes to send as many as fifty boxes in all, if the funds will permit.

Evangelistic Meeting.

The Francis Willard Temperance Union will hold a special evangelistic meeting on Friday at 4 p. m. at the Abyssinian Methodist Church, on Lombard Street, with Mrs. Massie as leader.

STATE BUILDING, 300 BROAD STREET

Auditor Marye Suggests Magnificent Structure and Extension of Capitol Square.

WOULD PULL DOWN FENCE

Necessity for Additional Office Space Becomes More Evident Every Day.

Claiming, as pointed out in The Times-Dispatch some months ago, that there is absolute necessity for another State building in Richmond, Capitol and Library buildings, the view of the approach of the time for the convening of the Legislature, are making various suggestions as to plans and location. Some of the proposals are very interesting. The latest is from Colonel Morton Marye, Auditor of Public Accounts, who suggests that the State acquire the whole block bounded by Broad and Capitol and Ninth and Tenth Streets, and erect a magnificent public building. He would remove the iron fence from around the present square and extend the park through the block. The new building, he suggests, should be a driveway, and pulling up the pavements on both sides, filling the space with grass. His scheme further includes the planting of beautiful shade trees around the proposed new building, and making its approaches as commanding as modern ingenuity can devise.

Another plan is that such a building as he has in mind on the block referred to would enhance the value of adjacent surrounding property to such an extent that the city could well afford to donate the ground. But this would not be essential, as the State, he suggests, can have so good a financial condition as it is at present. At the same time the need of additional office space for important departments was never before so pressing.

Could Use It All.

The State Library and the Court of Appeals could easily utilize all the space in the library building, and yet a number of other departments could be accommodated in the building. Others are renting rooms entirely outside the square.

It is contended that additional office room is absolutely imperative, and that there is no space in the square for another building. The suggestion is that the State should acquire the block, and the executive be paid enough additional salary to rent a residence somewhere in the city. The latter suggestion is not a popular one, and will probably never be carried out.

Should move into the providing of additional office room for the departments now crowded out of the State buildings will almost certainly be made by the coming Legislature.

TO ANSWER GRAVE CHARGE

C. H. Jones Alleged Disgraced and Abductor of Young Woman.

Charged with bigamy and with abducting a girl, C. H. Jones, who is a minor, C. H. Jones, a North Carolina school teacher, who is now under arrest at Woodstock, Va., will be taken back to Dare county, N. C., for trial and the girl, who with him, he is alleged to have abducted, will be placed by the witness stand by the prosecution. Judging from the warrant accompanying the requisition on Governor Swanson by Governor Glenn, Jones can have a hard road in court, and will probably "do time" at Raleigh for some years.

It is alleged that the man has two wives in North Carolina, and that both the State and the local authorities, who was a pupil in his school, and over whom he gained a powerful influence, have been deceived. Jones, who is now under arrest at Woodstock, Va., will be taken back to Dare county, N. C., for trial and the girl, who with him, he is alleged to have abducted, will be placed by the witness stand by the prosecution. Judging from the warrant accompanying the requisition on Governor Swanson by Governor Glenn, Jones can have a hard road in court, and will probably "do time" at Raleigh for some years.

Seven Days' Meeting.

A seven days' meeting will begin with a watch night service at the West End Wesleyan church, 505 West Cary Street. Seven of the first days of the New Year will be spent in prayer. There will be daily services from 10:30 A. M. to 2:30 and 8 P. M. as follows: Thursday, January 1st, all-day prayer; Friday, January 2nd, all-day prayer; Saturday, January 3rd, all-day prayer; Sunday, January 4th, all-day prayer; Monday, January 5th, all-day prayer; Tuesday, January 6th, all-day prayer; Wednesday, January 7th, all-day prayer; Thursday, January 8th, all-day prayer; Friday, January 9th, all-day prayer; Saturday, January 10th, all-day prayer; Sunday, January 11th, all-day prayer.

The neighborhood around Twenty-eighth and M Streets was considerably agitated over the shooting of a boy yesterday. Many of those who had boys in the crowd being inclined to take active steps against young Whybrow. Others were inclined to the belief that members of the gang would limit the shooting, and that he was not as much to blame as his tormentors.

NEGRO WOMAN SHOT

Becks Flew Thick and Fast in a Row Among Colored People.

Ella Coles, a young colored woman, was shot in the right arm yesterday afternoon about 1 o'clock, near her home on Golden Street. In the scuffle in which several negroes were engaged Ella also received a number of severe scalp wounds from flying articles. She was treated by Dr. Strode, of the city ambulance force, and after her wounds had been sewn up she was taken to the State Hospital. A warrant for John Cross, of 1006 Moore Street, charging him with being her assailant, the police were looking for the man last night.

While the negroes of West Leigh Street were celebrating last night, Ed Randolph, of 315 North Harrison Street, was hit in the head with a stone. He suffered a scalp wound about two inches long, which was sewed up by Dr. Strode, of the city ambulance.

Colored Theatre.

More than 2,000 people witnessed the scene at the Empire Colored Theatre in North Second Street last night. The management invites the public to attend the free exhibitions every day this week from 2 to 11 P. M.

Many letters have been received, acknowledging the receipt of the presents and expressing the appreciation of the convicts. Some of the letters are very pathetic, indicating surprise that any one should have thought of the families of convicts and declare that the people of Richmond ought to know just what they needed. Each box contained at least \$15 worth of clothing and useful presents. The merchants of Richmond who contributed to this undertaking did not give their cut-off stock, but in nearly every case sent first-class goods. Contributions are still coming in, and Mrs. Wiley purposes to send as many as fifty boxes in all, if the funds will permit.

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ACCA TEMPLE OFFICERS

Celebration Last Night Most Notable Held in Many Years.

Members of Acca Temple, Nobles of the Mystic Shrine, met at the Masonic Temple last night to elect officers for 1908 and to partake of their annual Christmas banquet.

The banquet was the largest and most brilliant held for years—certainly since that tendered to Admiral Schley. Mr. George J. Hooper, the retiring high priest, who has declined to accept a third term, despite the pressure brought to bear by all the members of the shrine. Under the leadership of Mr. Hooper, the shrine has enjoyed the most prosperous year of its existence. There have been more new members and the organization has been introduced in better condition than ever before. Notable among the innovations introduced by Mr. Hooper are the gorgeous uniforms with which the Arab patrol has been fitted during his administration.

The officers elected for the new year are: High Priest, Mr. Thomas W. McCaw; Chief Rabbi, Thomas B. McAdams; Assistant Chief Rabbi, Dr. George F. Bagby; High Priest and Prophet, Frank J. Craigie; Oriental Guide, Hol Cutchin; Director, J. Cunningham; Treasurer, John J. Mayor; Recorder, Charles A. Nesbitt; First Ceremonial Master, Montello B. Rudd; Second Ceremonial Master, Robert J. Crump; Marshal, D. C. O'Flaherty; Captain of Guards, James C. Bowman; Outer Guard, William Krouse; Trustees, Preston Delvin, Leon Wallerstein, James C. Clift; Representatives to Imperial Council, Preston Delvin, D. E. Downing, Thomas J. Nottingham, and John F. Strickland.

Mr. Delvin was the man on the list who was re-elected, the other two holding over.

BIG DOG FIGHT

City Officials Said to Have Been Present—S. P. C. A. Agent at Work.

Charging that a fight between two bulldogs was held in the presence of a number of people on Christmas afternoon, Agent Emmett Taylor, of the Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals, is making investigation and expects to swear out some warrants to-day.

According to Agent Taylor, the fight took place in the rear of Charles D. Hutzler's bar, at 608 East Broad, one of the dogs, a bull, belonging to Mr. Hutzler, was killed. The other dog, named Harrison Bundy, the agent declares he wants to get the names of the two who held the dogs and of the crowd that was present, and he will swear out warrants for all five.

The spectators will be summoned as witnesses, and it is in the "among those present" that the popular interest lies, since, according to current rumor, more than one prominent witness in the city is among the crowd that witnessed the contest until the animals were separated.

Both dogs were badly hurt, but were separated before the fight had a chance to kill. There were said to be at least twenty-five "sports" present, some white and some colored.

Mr. Hutzler could not be seen in connection with Mr. Taylor's charges yesterday afternoon, but an employee of the establishment, who was with him for publication, said that the dogs had merely got into a mix-up in the barroom, and that those who were present had no part in the fight. Mr. Taylor has the names of at least three city officials and one magistrate who were among the crowd. He declined to give out the list last night.

HARD-LUCK CHRISTMAS

Young Woman Who Left Richmond for Holidays Tells of Her Troubles.

Going to her North Carolina home for Christmas, a young woman employed by a Richmond concern, sends back word of trouble galore. To begin with, she says, she had a very bad cold, and it halted at the little station a terrible storm was raging, sheets of rain driving everything into the road, and the streets were covered with mud. It was pitch dark.

"I got in the carriage with two friends and my little brother, and we were driving along when a horse got frightened and turned around and ran into us and frightened us all. The horse was running and we were all thrown out. They ran away and hit a wire fence and threw me out against a post and sprained my arm and hurt my head. I lost my purse, but an honest person found it and brought it back. My trunk was also lost, not from the carriage, but by the porter, and I can't get any trace of it, and all I have with me is a dark blue traveling suit. Disappointment has been my pleasure. I regret I ever left Richmond."

THROWN FROM CAR

Lurch in Bouncing Car Pitched Mr. Cox Out Painfully Hurt.

Mr. J. C. Cox, of No. 412 North Twenty-fourth Street, fell from a Broad and Main Street "owl" car this morning shortly before 1 o'clock at the corner of Eighth and Main Streets as the car was rounding the curve. Mr. Cox, who is a cripple, was riding on the front platform at the time, and the lurch threw him from the platform, injuring him severely. He was carried to the First Police Station, where the city ambulance, in charge of Dr. Hinchman, was called. Dr. Hinchman found Mr. Cox to be seriously injured, with a dislocated elbow, a badly cut lip and a bruised knee. After his injuries were treated he was able to go to his home on another car.

TO REPEAT MUSIC

Sacred Heart Cathedral Choir to Render Fine Program Again.

The choir of the Sacred Heart Cathedral, principally of St. John's in four parts, so ably rendered by the Sacred Heart Cathedral choir of twenty male voices at the annual mass, which was repeated next Sunday at the 11 o'clock services. A large congregation is expected.

At Pegram's School.

Mrs. C. M. Edgington, of No. 1602 West Main Street, entertained the pupils of Pegram's School Tuesday in the class room. The Rev. D. D. of Richmond College, spoke on "The Christmas Spirit." There were recitations by Miss Macfie, Jennie Rogers, Mary Cullen, Rena Fisher, Stella Anderson, Sara Page, and musical selections by Mrs. Catherine McGee, of the Sacred Heart Cathedral. The school will be closed for New Year's Day.

Special Examination.

The internal revenue office here has been notified by the department at Washington of a special examination to be held in Richmond on January 8th to establish an eligible register for the position of collector of the revenue under the new law. The register, which was made up at the last examination, has been exhausted as a result of recent appointments.

SANTA CLAUS PAYS VISIT TO SCHOOLS

Celebration at Montrose Presbyterian Church Yesterday Was a Great Success.

CHRISTMAS TREE IN PULPIT

Orphan Boys to Have Entertainment This Afternoon—At Lutheran Church.

Montrose Presbyterian Sunday-school, in the eastern end of the city, held its Christmas celebration yesterday afternoon with great success. The church was beautifully decorated in red and green, and a large tree lighted with strings of candles occupied the pulpit platform.

The choir of the church led the school in singing a number of appropriate hymns, and a quartet composed of Mrs. Elizabeth French, Mrs. Clay, Mr. Robert French and Mr. Astley also participated in the musical program. Miss Donie Spencer sang "Gather the Fairer Rosebuds."

Plane Work of Children.

The children of the school gave a fine series of recitations, each pupil doing the part assigned in a most commendable manner. The recitations were as follows:

"The Loving Little Girl," by Miss Alice Walker.

"Christmas Day," by George Scammell.

"Mother Hubbard's Christmas Cupboard," by Miss Lillian Drinkard.

"In Santa Claus Land," by Miss Lillian Drinkard.

"Hazy's Letter," by Roland Walker.

"Hazel and Santa Claus," by Miss Donie Spencer.

"Hush," by Walter Barker.

"Christmas," a dialogue, with stars bearing the letters of the word—by Annie Myers, Miller Stout, Ryland Moore, Freddie Goldsmith, Lyle Lindas, Nannie Whitlock, Langford Walker, Ruth Adams.

"Christmas Day Has Come," by Ernest Jenkins.

"The Two Little Stockings," by Irene Scammell.

"Christmas Bells," with bells bearing the words "Joy," "Peace," "Love," "Goodwill."

"Salvation," by Grace Kersey, Fannie Goldsmith, Ruth Adams, Louise Washer, Louis Nelson.

"What the Stockings Said," by Langford Walker.

"Poor Santa Claus," by Nannie Whitlock.

"Christmas With Two Mollies," by Fannie Goldsmith and Annie Bew.

"Jesus," a dialogue, with the letters of the word on stars—by Jack Bew, Bernard Avery, Willis Dyer, Stuart Jack, Floyd Bates.

"The Star of Bethlehem," by Miss Mamie Redford.

Prizes Awarded.

Prizes were given to Lorena and Lovie Whitlock for reciting the Child's Catechism perfectly at one sitting.

Prizes for attendance were given to John Hunter, James Whitlock, Ed Hunter, Mamie Hutchinson, Mamie Redford, Mary Nelson, Sidney Clay, Gus Hutchinson, Langford Walker, Roland Walker, Fred Nelson, Louis Nelson, Ernest Nelson, Josie Hicks, Annie Myers, Ashby Myers, Leander Myers, Freddie Goldsmith, Miller Stout, Oscar Whitlock, Annie Bew, Irene Scammell, Lyle Lindas, Fannie Goldsmith, Lorena Whitlock, Lovie Whitlock, Nannie Whitlock.

Gold medals for being present every Sunday in the year were given to Mamie Hutchinson, Langford Walker, Lyle Lindas, Fannie Goldsmith, Sidney Clay, John Whitlock and Sidney Clay.

Tokens of good will were given by the ladies of the congregation to the pastor of the church, the Rev. William S. Campbell, who is also superintendent of the Sunday-school, and to Mr. Robert French and Mrs. Elizabeth French, the organist and assistant organist of the church and Sunday-school.

For the Children.

The house was filled to overflowing. The success of the entertainment was due to the hard work done by all connected with it, but special credit is due to Mrs. W. L. Brittle and Mrs. James Whitlock, who had charge of the tree and the church decorations, and to Mrs. Elizabeth French and Mrs. Walker, who trained the children for the singing and recitations.

The children made a liberal contribution of good things to be sent to the inmates of the assembly's home and school for the orphan children of ministers at Fredericksburg.

For Orphan Boys.

The annual Christmas celebration at the Male Orphan Asylum will be held this afternoon at 4:30 o'clock. The program, which follows, will be rendered with the usual excellence of Mrs. Gill's boys, after which the youngsters will be marched into the dining-room, where they will do full justice to a royal Christmas spread.

"Hark to the Bells in the Old Church Tower."

Prayer, Rev. Dr. James Power Smith.

"Glory to God" (redemption), chorus.

"Songs of the Angels," semi-chorus.

"The Clock Song."

"Santa Is On His Way."

The Arrival of Santa Claus.

There's Nobody Like our Santa Claus.

Remarks.

Holly Berries Red, Hanging Overhead, chorus.

Lutheran Sunday School.

The Christmas celebration of the First English Lutheran Sunday school will be held to-night at 8 o'clock in the church, Seventh and Grace Streets. The program will be very interesting, and will be composed of recitations, songs and music. Santa Claus will appear in person and distribute the presents. The public is invited.

Gans-Rady's Reduction Sale

Begins in a more pronounced form this morning—reducing stocks that are many times too large is a necessity, and the pruning knife—cutting prices—has been used without regard to profits or costs. All gaps have been filled in by additional lots which have heretofore not been in the sale and the selection this morning will be better than ever.

Men's Suits, Which Sold at \$20, \$22.50 & \$25

Men's Heavy-Weight Overcoats, Choice of Hundreds of Garments Now

Men's Light-Weight Overcoats, \$16.00

Men's Cravenette Coats, \$16.00

Boys' and Children's Suits, Overcoats and Reefers—Every lot in the house is included—All Staples—All Novelties—All Blacks and Blues.

\$ 3.50 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$2.85

\$ 4.00 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$3.15

\$ 4.50 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$3.65

\$ 5.00 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$3.95

\$ 6.00 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$4.45

\$ 6.50 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$4.95

\$ 7.50 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$5.85

\$ 8.50 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$6.95

\$10.00 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$7.85

\$12.50 Suits, Overcoats and Reefers now \$9.75

Gans-Rady Company

GRAND JURY MAY GO PINK ALLEY HAS AFTER MINISTERS ITS CELEBRATION

Failure to Return Marriage Records Is Subject to Fine Under the Law.

Only Two Cutting Scrapes and One Hand-to-Beer-Bottle Contest.

Attention was called yesterday to the fact that ministers who perform marriage ceremonies and then fail to return the certificates, properly indexed and signed, are subject to a fine by the court having jurisdiction. As heretofore mentioned in The Times-Dispatch, a large number of records are incomplete and cannot be completed, so far as the law is concerned, until there is a signed statement from the minister.

Not long ago a license was issued to a Richmond couple, but was never certified and returned by the minister. In some way the report was circulated in the community in which the couple resided that they had not married; that in securing a license they merely did so to fool the neighbors.

So rapidly did this rumor spread that the man and his wife were practically ostracized, especially when the Hustings Court records were consulted. There was no indorsement by the minister on file.

The couple moved away, conscious that they had been coldly received, but without knowing why. Afterward the wife inherited a small fortune in Australia, and she and her husband, however, until proof of her marriage was obtained, and her lawyer was astounded when he was given the proper information, now lacking, that the matter will be presented to the grand jury in a number of Virginia counties.

MR. GREGORY DEAD

Prominent Young Richmond Man Passes Away After Long Illness.

After an illness of more than six weeks of typhoid fever in the home of his mother, Mr. Gregory, one of the best known and most popular leaders of the city, passed away yesterday evening at 6:40 o'clock.

Mr. Gregory was the son of the Hon. Roger Gregory, of King William county, and until last year professor of law in Richmond College. His mother is the daughter of the late Hon. William C. Allen. He leaves three sisters—Mrs. E. M. McGruder, of Charlottesville; Mrs. J. S. John Carter, of Richmond; and Miss Maria Gregory, of King William, and one brother, Mr. Roger Gregory, Jr., of King William county.

Thought only twenty-nine years of age, Mr. Gregory was the head of the George E. Gregory Company, manufacturers of sewing machines, and until last year professor of law in Richmond College. His mother is the daughter of the late Hon. William C. Allen. He leaves three sisters—Mrs. E. M. McGruder, of Charlottesville; Mrs. J. S. John Carter, of Richmond; and Miss Maria Gregory, of King William, and one brother, Mr. Roger Gregory, Jr., of King William county.

Hardly had the smoke of this battle cleared away when Noah Flood and another negro started a row in the kitchen. Things had begun to happen in a lively fashion now, but the audience paid little or no attention to these small matters.

Rough House.

Just when the exercises were being concluded somebody threw a beer bottle in the crowd, (an empty one too) and struck Jonah Mann in the head. The bottle broke in many places, and the glass flew everywhere. This incident started a free-for-all scrap for a time.